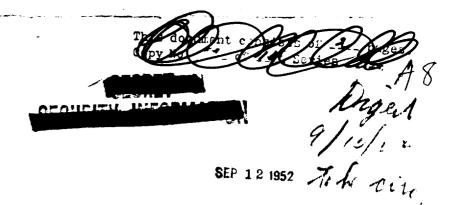
~32	US DOE ARCHIVES 6 U.S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
	ien SECRETARIAT
Box	4925
	MR+A7 CASTLE VOLT



Dear Mr. Davies

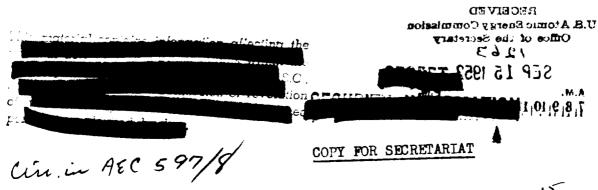
The Commission has considered the question of the disposition of BIKINI Atell which you, Mr. Thomas, and Mr. Sady reised at a meeting in my office on April 17, 1952. We have also considered the results of aerial and map surveys of the several alternate loostions suggested in your letter of June 2, 1952,

Our first concern, you will recall, was to determine whether or not BIKINI was inhabitable from a radialogical safety point of view, but a sleesly allied problem was that of retaining, as an alternate site capability, a location which satisfies several operational requirements. These requirements are that the site:

AUTHORITY

- (1) Here sufficient land area to accommodate the scientific tests, a small enerating base, a care for workers, and a C-47 air strip.
- (2) Have a navigable harbor sufficiently deep to accompdate cocam-going ships.
- (3) Be within ressonable supporting distance of the home base at Intertak
- (h) Be far enough removed from imbabited areas so that inhabitants are not endangured by the galentific tests.

Our examination of all the land areas involved reveals that, while Bikini is in all probability quite inhabitable from the radiological point of view, it is the one of all the land areas involved which most nearly satisfies our requirements for a possible supplementary site. We feel it is necessary, therefore, to maintain our present position relative to Bikini. This means, of source, that . the matives now living on Kill cannot be moved there. If the requirement still exists to move these natives, the Atomic Emergy Consission will be glad to assist you toward that end, if you



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desire, by testifying where necessary to the effect that our operational requirements for Bikini prevent moving them there.

To establish basis topographical survey control points in case future devalopments require activation of Rikimi as a supplementary site, we plan to send a suall party there about October 1, 1952.

We are informing you of our tentative considerions and proposed action at this time in accordance with our letter of July 7 in order that you may assess the implications thereof. We will, of course, keep you informed of future developments in this connection.

Sincerely yours,

UNITED STATES ATOMIC EN-ROY COMPLISSION

Gordon Dean Chairman Department of Energy Historian's Office ARCHIVES

Mr. James P. Davis, Director Office of Territories Department of Interior Washington, D. C.

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